

C. Cowdery
3826 NE Eighty-Ninth Street
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January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

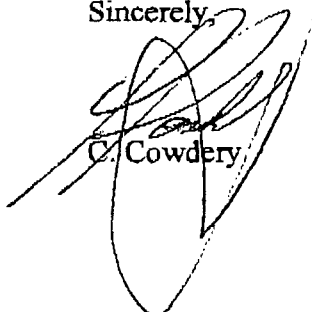
After three long years of court battles, Microsoft and the government have settled an antitrust suit that has profound implications for all software publishers, the rest of the Information Technology industry, and American consumers. By ending this case, the government is actually giving a boost to our sagging economy.

The settlement has teeth. Under the agreement, computer manufacturers were granted new rights to configure systems with access to various Windows features. Microsoft must also design future versions of Windows to make it easier to install non-Microsoft software and to disclose information about certain internal interfaces in Windows.

The government even went so far as to create an ongoing technical oversight committee to review Microsoft software codes and books and to test Microsoft compliance to ensure that Microsoft abides by the agreement. This will help to promote fairness.

In conclusion, I don't think it will ever be necessary for the federal government to ever bring any more litigation against Microsoft beyond this agreement. This agreement is more than fair and reasonable and was arrived at after extensive negotiations with a court appointed mediator.

Sincerely,



C. Cowdery